

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application, where added material is shown in underlined type, deleted material is shown in ~~strikeout type~~:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A surface mount technology connector for mounting between a first printed circuit board having a first contact area and a second printed circuit board having a second contact area, said connector comprising:

a member having a hollow trapezoidal cross-section, where two sides of said member are substantially parallel and form a first portion congruent with at least a portion of said first contact area and a second portion that is smaller than said first portion and congruent with at least a portion of said second contact area; such that said connector has substantially improved structural resistance to lateral movement.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The connector of claim 2 1, wherein said member is formed from a strip of material of a given width and a given length that extends from a first end of the strip that forms a part of the first portion that is congruent with at least a portion of the first contact area to a second end of the strip that forms the remaining part of the first portion.

4. (Original) The connector of claim 3, wherein said first end abuts said second end to form a seam therebetween of the given width.

5. (Original) The connector of claim 3, wherein tabs are formed on either side of said second contact area.

6. (Original) The connector of claim 3, wherein the material is a highly conductive metal.

7. (Original) The connector of claim 6, wherein the material is copper.

8. (Original) The connector of claim 7, wherein the material is plated with solder prior to attachment to the printed circuit boards.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently amended) A surface mount technology connector for providing power to flow between a first printed circuit board having a first contact area and a second printed circuit board having a second contact area, said connector comprising:

a member having a hollow trapezoidal cross-section, where a strip of a highly conductive metal having a given width and a given length is bent along four separate edges to form the trapezoidal cross-sectional member having first and second substantially parallel sides and two non-parallel sides, where the first substantially parallel side has a first portion that is congruent with at least a portion of said first contact area and the second substantially parallel side has a second portion that is congruent with at least a portion of said second contact area, and where a first end of the strip forms a part of the first substantially parallel side and a second end of the strip forms the remaining part of the first substantially parallel side and abuts the first end to from a seam there between; such that said connector has substantially improved structural resistance to lateral movement.

11. (Original) The connector of claim 10, wherein tabs are formed on either side of said second substantially parallel side.

12. (Original) The connector of claim 10, wherein the material is a highly conductive metal.

13. (Original) The connector of claim 12, wherein the material is copper.

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14. (Original) The connector of claim 13, wherein the material is plated with solder prior to attachment to the printed circuit boards.

15. (Original) The connector of claim 10, wherein the thickness of the strip is less than 0.3 mm.